

### **REMARKS**

This responds to the Office Action dated September 5, 2006, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 16, 18, 23 and 24 are amended, claim 26 is canceled; as a result, claims 1-25 are now pending in this application.

#### **§102 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Huff et al. (U.S. 2004/0230268). Applicant has amended claim 16. Applicant cannot find in Huff an adapter having a housing and the terminal end is received in the housing, and at least one pin contact disposed within the housing as recited in claims 16 and 17. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

#### **§103 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 1-5 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huff et al. (U.S. 2004/0230268). Applicant cannot find in Huff at least one pin contact disposed within the interior axial opening, the at least one pin contact adapted to electrically link with a pin contact of the lead as recited in claim 1, from which claims 2 – 5 depend. Applicant cannot find in Huff an adapter configured to electrically link with contacts including a pin contact of the mating terminal end of the implantable cardiac lead when the mating terminal end and pin of the implantable cardiac lead is positioned within the interior opening, as recited in claim 23. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

#### **Reservation of Right to Swear Behind References**

Applicant reserves the right to swear behind any references which are cited in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§102(a), 102(e), 103/102(a), and 103/102(e). Statements distinguishing the claimed subject matter over the cited references are not to be interpreted as admissions that the references are prior art.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claim 25.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 359-3276 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

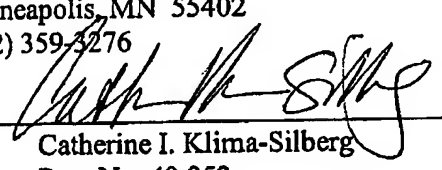
DAVID J. HANSEN ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date Mar. 2, 2007

By

  
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Reg. No. 40,052

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 2 day of March, 2007.

Name

Signature